tion of the island where the storm was somewhat less severe than in other parts, the damage to the property was still very great. A number of the buildings were unroofed, and some of the laborers' houses were so badly wrecked that they will have to be rebuilt. The office and laboratory building was not damaged to any considerable extent. The heavy rain accompanying and following the storm caused considerable injury to the contents of the unroofed buildings. Several of the smaller station buildings were utterly demolished, and the loss to the station property is estimated at $10,000. The experimental crops and orchards of tropical fruits, forestry plantings, etc., were destroyed to a large extent, necessitating beginning them anew.

At both stations temporary repairs have been effected, and work is proceeding, although it will be some time before some projects can be resumed.

The principal damage to the station property in Florida was at the Everglades Experiment Station, situated near Belle Glade. Here, likewise, there was no loss of life, but the damage to buildings and equipment is estimated at nearly $35,000, irrespective of breaks in the levees. On September 16 and 17 the station lands were flooded by water from Lake Okechobee to a maximum depth of about 43 inches, destroying all field plats, a citrus planting, all meteorological instruments, many supplies, etc. Many of the buildings were unroofed, twisted and moved from their foundations, and several were demolished completely. Among these was the greenhouse, aside from the service room which is practically intact. There was also extensive damage to books and laboratory equipment. Although the flood waters receded very slowly, salvage work was taken up promptly, and it is expected that the operation of the station will be continued.

THE PROGRAM OF RESEARCH OF THE CORN-BORER CONFERENCE

A COMPLETE program of research for controlling the European corn borer was presented and adopted at the third annual conference of corn-borer interests in Washington, D. C., on January 2. More than seventy representatives from the corn-borer infested states and the corn belt, including entomologists, administrative officials and others interested in the problem, attended the meeting.

Dr. A. F. Woods, director of scientific work, U. S. Department of Agriculture, as chairman of the conference, opened the day's session by a brief address in which he urged a free discussion of the many angles of the problem and explained the purpose of the conference was to provide for a complete coordination of the various research projects throughout the affected States and Canada.

The program as adopted for 1929 includes definite research work by six bureaus of the U. S. Department of Agriculture—Entomology, Plant Industry, Chemistry and Soils, Public Roads, Animal Industry and Agricultural Economics. Seven states—Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and New York—also will carry on research and educational work in the numerous phases of the borer problem.

Among the thousands of major and minor lines of investigation all of which have an important bearing on the final solution of the problem will be studies by these federal bureaus and states on feeding and otherwise using cornstalks, breeding experiments to produce strains that may prove tolerant to the borer, studies of fertility treatments to hasten development of the corn plant so as to miss the maximum moth flight, and studies on the possibility of displacing the corn plant with other crops of equal value.

Investigations with insecticides, repellants and attractants will be conducted. The important projects now under way to introduce and establish parasites of the borer from foreign countries will be continued. Studies of the life habits of the pest will be carried on to furnish information necessary for a practical program in combating spread and control of the borer.

Effort will be continued to determine the value of fall and spring plowing in different types of soil, with different widths and types of plow bottoms, on different dates, and at various depths.

In fact, no line of investigation that promises to furnish useful information on the borer problem has been omitted from the 1929 program. A new committee representing the American Society of Animal Production reported at the conference and pointed out that 80 per cent. of the corn produced is fed to livestock. Therefore, the committee stated, any menace to the corn crop is of vital interest to the animal husbandman. In this connection the 1929 program includes studies on the use of other feeds and pastures in greater quantities to meet a possible shortage of corn.

PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

DR. FRANCIS X. DERCUM, president of the American Philosophical Society, has appointed a committee of forty-two members whose objectives are an "intellectual stock-taking" in order to plan a program of development for the society. In his letter to members Dr. Dercum writes:

The American Philosophical Society, having crossed the threshold of its third century, enters upon the New Year

resolved to continue and to expand its service to learning. For more than two hundred years the society has kept pace with America's progress. Through all the years to come it pledges its membership to its original ideal and purpose—"promoting useful knowledge."

But at the present time the society is faced with a problem which for solution will require the cooperation of the entire membership. Since Benjamin Franklin gathered about him in 1727 his "ingenious acquaintance into a club for mutual improvement," many and marvelous changes have taken place in this world of ours. As the nation has progressed, hundreds of learned societies have followed in the wake of this first gathering of intellectual leaders.

Because of this growth and of the natural need for a great many special societies, it is becoming more and more necessary to unite the intellectual leaders of to-day in one coordinating effort for mutual understanding and the promotion of useful knowledge.

"Unless there is a period of intellectual stock-taking," said Professor C. Lovatt Evans, of University College, London, before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, "there must inevitably be a loss of perspective and of grasp of great general principles."

The American Philosophical Society is taking stock of the intellectual situation with a view to formulating a future program of service to all branches of learning through its membership. As one of our distinguished members said for us at our bi-centenary celebration in 1927 and as others of us have often emphasized:

"The intertwining of philosophic and humanistic interests in the Philosophical Society helps not merely in deepening our perspective in the field of knowledge. It serves also to make more clear the meaning of development of human interests through time. In a day of natural and proper specialization such an organization serves as stabilizer and a means for helping to make more clear the relation between man and his environment, and the place of the individual in the scheme of human organization.

"The two hundred years of history behind us have seemed perhaps to make more wide the gaps between our various departments in the scheme of knowledge. Before us lies an opportunity for service in picturing through synthesis of these divergent elements a universe of nature and of human life more wonderful than that which we have known and destined to give us ever increasing joy of living."

With our opportunity thus clearly defined, I have appointed a committee on development of the society's activities. This committee has as objectives the intellectual stock-taking necessary to the projection of a program of continuing and expanding service of the society and the final development of that program.

Already the members of the committee, chosen from various parts of the country, have proffered their views for such a program. Within a short time a report will be made.

Upon the devotion of the members depends the society's opportunity for the successful execution of this program.

The members of the committee are:

Francis X. Dercum, *chairman;* Cyrus Adler, Philadelphia; John Ashhurst, Philadelphia; Frank Aydelotte, Swarthmore; James H. Breasted, Chicago; Ernest W. Brown, New Haven; Albert P. Brubaker, Philadelphia; William W. Campbell, Berkeley; Edward Capps, Princeton; Edwin G. Conklin, Princeton; Arthur L. Day, Washington; Henry H. Donaldson, Philadelphia; Joseph Erlanger, St. Louis; Livingston Farrand, Ithaca; John H. Finley, New York; Arthur W. Goodspeed, Philadelphia; Victor G. Heiser, New York; William J. Holland, Pittsburgh; Arthur E. Kennelly, Cambridge; William E. Lingelbach, Philadelphia; Edgar Odell Lovett, Houston; Daniel T. MacDougal, Tucson; Clarence E. McClung, Philadelphia; Walton B. McDaniel, Philadelphia; Lafayette B. Mendel, New Haven; John A. Miller, Swarthmore; Robert A. Millikan, Pasadena; Henry Fairfield Osborn, New York; Raymond Pearl, Baltimore; R. A. F. Penrose, Jr., Philadelphia; William Lyon Phelps, New Haven; Eli Kirk Price, Philadelphia; Henry S. Pritchett, New York; Charles Lee Reese, Wilmington; Leo S. Rowe, Washington; Frank Schlesinger, New Haven; William B. Scott, Princeton; Harlow Shapley, Cambridge; Witmer Stone, Philadelphia; Elihu Thomson, Swampscott; Oswald Veblen, Oxford; Edwin B. Wilson, Boston.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

HERBERT HOOVER has received the congratulations of a committee representing the American Philosophical Society, of which he has long been a member. The engrossed scroll presented to the President-elect bears the following inscription: "To scientific knowledge and technical skill, to a devotion to humanities you join a wide experience in public affairs at home and abroad and you thus exemplify in your person that happy combination of the natural and moral philosophies which this society has cherished since the day of its founding by Benjamin Franklin. We feel assured that the selection of a member of the society, devoted as you have been to scientific studies and to their application to the furtherance of noble humanitarian projects, will be in the minds of the people of this country a symbol of that intellectual statesmanship so necessary for the right proportion between the ideals for which we live and the material and physical prosperity which, though necessary to every nation, must never become its sole concern." Mr. Hoover is the ninth member of the American Philosophical Society to be elected president of the United States.

AT the meeting of the Botanical Society of America in New York City, Professor Margaret C. Ferguson, chairman of the department of botany at Wellesley College, was elected president for 1929.